

## Procedures for Avoidance of Effects to Cultural Resources on State Forest Timber Sales

by:

Daniel G. Foster and Cliff Fago

January 5, 1982

**CDF Editorial Note:** This piece was written by Dan Foster and Cliff Fago in 1982 to identify specific procedures to avoid disturbing archaeological and historical sites during logging operations on State Forests. These procedures were developed prior to the forest practice rules that now govern such timber operations, however, this guidance may still be useful to assist RPFs develop appropriate strategies to protect sites on commercial logging operations.

1. Archaeological sites should be removed from timber harvest consideration, however, selective harvesting may be permitted within the boundaries of archaeological sites if:
  - a. it can be accomplished without damage to any recorded feature
  - b. adverse effects to surface artifacts can be avoided by appropriate procedures (such as mapping, collection, and curation)
  - c. no subsurface damage is expected (such as due to an absence of a subsurface cultural deposit or use of longlining or skyline yarding)
2. Any trees previously marked for harvesting within the boundaries of an archaeological site will have that mark cancelled or removed prior to the start of the timber sale if necessary to protect the site.
3. No equipment or vehicular passage over or through an archaeological site will be permitted.
4. Trees with historic blazes, carvings, K-tags, or cat-faces useful for studying the fire history shall be evaluated for their historic value prior to removal. Non-native trees associated with significant historic sites will be left if necessary to maintain site integrity.
5. Logs may be skidded across historic railroad grades providing that:
  - a. significant associated features (such as trestle remnants, inclines, tunnels, structures, or camps) are avoided

- b. the number of points where the grade is crossed is kept to a minimum and that the course of the grade is still recognizable at the completion of the operations
- 6. No skid trails, skid roads, temporary roads, road widening, road construction, landings, yarding areas, or other such ground disturbance activities.
- 7. If logging or other forestry operations are planned in proximity to an archaeological site, the site boundaries will be flagged or posted to prevent equipment from straying onto the site. This flagging shall be done in consultation with the CDF Archaeologist.
- 8. All flags and signs indicating site boundaries shall be removed following completion of operations.
- 9. If the operations are sufficient distance away from the archaeological site, or if the archaeological site is protected by any natural barriers so that identification of the site boundaries is not necessary, no flagging or marking will be done.
- 10. The Timber Sale Officer or project supervisor shall be aware of the presence and location of all known archaeological sites within the project area, and will insure the protection of these resources by periodic inspection.
- 11. Any evidence of recent or ongoing vandalism (including but not limited to surface collecting, actual digging, bottle collecting, rummaging through dumps, removing early mining equipment or portions of cabins, etc.) shall be promptly reported to the Forest Manager and the CDF Archaeologist.
- 12. If any damage is caused by logging activities, such as skidding a log through an archaeological site, the Forest Manager and the CDF Archaeologist shall be informed immediately.
- 13. The Sale Officer will inspect all identified archaeological sites at the conclusion of the timber sale and report any damage to the CDF Archaeologist.
- 14. If any previously unidentified archaeological site is discovered or exposed during timber harvesting activities, operations shall be suspended in the immediate area and the CDF Archaeologist shall be notified so that the site can be recorded and the appropriate mitigation determined.

PROCEDURES FOR AVOIDANCE OF EFFECTS TO CULTURAL RESOURCES  
ON STATE FOREST TIMBER SALES

by:  
Daniel G. Foster  
and  
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1. Archeological sites should be removed from timber harvest consideration, however, selective harvesting may be permitted within the boundaries of archeological sites if:
  - a. it can be accomplished without damage to any recorded feature
  - b. adverse effects to surface artifacts can be avoided by appropriate procedures (such as mapping, collection, and curation)
  - c. no subsurface damage is expected (such as due to an absence of a subsurface cultural deposit or use of longlining on skyline yarding)
2. Any trees previously marked for harvesting within the boundaries of an archeological site will have that mark cancelled or removed prior to the start of the timber sale if necessary to protect the site.
3. No equipment or vehicular passage over or through an archeological site will be permitted.
4. Trees with historic blazes, carvings, K-tags, or cat-faces useful for studying the fire history shall be evaluated for their historic value prior to removal. Non-native trees associated with significant historic sites will be left if necessary to maintain site integrity.
5. Logs may be skidded across historic railroad grades providing that:
  - a. significant associated features (such as trestle remnants, inclines, tunnels, structures, or camps) are avoided.
  - b. The number of points where the grade is crossed is kept to a minimum and that the course of the grade is still recognizable at the completion of the operations.
6. No skid trails, skid roads, temporary roads, road widening, road construction, landings, yarding areas, or other such ground disturbance activities shall be allowed within an archeological site.

7. If logging or other forestry operations are planned in proximity to an archeological site, the site boundaries will be flagged or posted to prevent equipment from straying onto the site. This flagging shall be done in consultation with the CDF Archeologist.
8. All flags and signs indicating site boundaries shall be removed following completion of operations.
9. If the operations are a sufficient distance away from the archeological site, or if the archeological site is protected by any natural barriers so that identification of the site boundaries is not necessary, no flagging or marking will be done.
10. The Timber Sale Officer or project supervisor shall be aware of the presence and location of all known archeological sites within the project area, and will insure the protection of these resources by periodic inspection.
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